

NewPark Drilling Fluids
July 2, 2018

The fire at the NewPark Drilling Fluids facility in Kennedy, TX continue to burn. Field activities for EPA and START for the Kenedy Texas Emergency Response, began with evaluated the pathway from the fire to Escondido Creek. Escondido Creek is approximately 1,425 feet south of the south entrance to the facility and flows in to the San Antoine River. The Fire Chief inspected the build at 7:00 AM and determined that the building was unsafe to enter now. The RP has set up a command post and is planning future operation. The RP has also started to clean up the ground around the facility and has placed to dam to restrict the flow water and chemical in the ditch. The ditch had been bermed and cleaning began this afternoon of 07/02/2018. The ditches were clean up by using a VAC track to remove any water and chemical. They will be excavated and a later time once the fire in out. At the request of the local fire department START conducted air monitoring operations on Freeny Drive and around the apartment complexes to the North and North West of the facility. Areas of focus for the team were the apartment complexes that was evacuated by the local fire department; the Country Village of Kenedy Apartments and the Kenedy Suites Apartments. The team made multiple sweeps in locations throughout the apartment complexes. Air monitoring readings in Country Village of Kenedy were recorded as high as 13 ppm of CO, and .6 ppm VOC. There were no elevated readings of O2, LEL, or H2S. Air monitoring reading recorded inside the Kenedy Suites Apartments were recorded at 11 ppm of CO, and 0.5 ppm VOC. There were no other elevated or abnormal readings on O2, LEL, or H2S. The EPA provided the information to the local fire department so they could evaluate the duration of evacuation and if resident could be allowed temporary access in to recover pets and medications. A command briefing was held at 7:00 PM to discuss future operation. Fire Chief will again inspect the building at 8:00 AM on July 3, 2018 to see about entering the building. The Insurance personnel will be on site in the morning to assess the damage and gather information. There will be a briefing at 10:00 AM to discuss the entering of the build to put the rest of the fire out and start the cleanup process on the build and rest of the facility.

Description: The fire at the NewPark Drilling Fluids facility continues to burn. Field activities for EPA and START began with evaluation of the pathway from the fire to Escondido Creek. Escondido Creek is approximately 1,425 feet south of the south entrance to the facility and flows in to the San Antoine River. The Fire Chief inspected the building and determined the building unsafe to enter. The RP has set up a command post and is planning future operations. The RP has begun clean up of the ground around the facility and has placed a berm to restrict the flow water and chemical in the ditch. Recovery of water and chemical in the ditch began this afternoon, using a vacuum truck. Soil will be removed once the fire is out. At the request of the fire department, START conducted air monitoring operations on Freeny Drive and around the apartment complexes to the North and North West of the facility. Focus was on the evacuated complexes. The team made multiple sweeps in locations throughout the complexes. Air monitoring readings were recorded as high as 13 ppm of CO, and .6 ppm VOC. There were no elevated readings of O2, LEL, or H2S. Air monitoring reading recorded in other apartments were recorded at 11 ppm of CO, and 0.5 ppm VOC. There were no other elevated or abnormal readings on O2, LEL, or H2S. The EPA provided the information to the fire department so they

could evaluate the duration of evacuation and if residents could be allowed temporary access in to recover pets and medications. A command briefing was held at 7:00 PM to discuss future operations. The Fire Chief will again inspect the building at 8:00 AM on July 3, 2018 to determine if the building may be entered. The Insurance personnel will be on site in the morning to assess the damage and gather information. If entry is allowed this morning, the fire will be extinguished and the start of cleanup began.